

LETTERS †

Concerning Payment of California License Fee by Physician in Military Service of a Foreign Power.

(COPY)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Legal Department

San Francisco, November 6, 1941.

Board of Medical Examiners

1020 N Street

Sacramento, California

Attention: Charles B. Pinkham, M. D.

Secretary-Treasurer

Gentlemen:

This is in reply to your letter dated October 20, 1941 and forwarded to this office by the Director of the Department of Professional and Vocational Standards under date of October 28, 1941, in which you request our opinion "as to whether the provisions of Chapter 21, Statutes 1941 are applicable to a licentiate who serves with a foreign power."

The pertinent provisions of the statute to which you refer read as follows:

"Every person licensed under this chapter is exempt from the payment of the annual tax and registration fee in any one of the following instances:

"(a) While engaged in full time active service in the medical corps of the Army, Navy or Marines or in the United States Public Health Service.

"(b) While fulfilling his full time period of training and active service, whether as a draftee or volunteer, under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 and any amendments or additions thereto or acts supplementary thereof."

Clearly, one serving with the forces of a foreign power does not come within subdivision (a) above.

With respect to subdivision (b) supra, examination of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 (54 Stats. Chap. 720, p. 885) discloses no reference to persons serving in the forces of a foreign power. Consequently, such a person would not be exempt under said subdivision.

It seems clear, therefore, that the legislature intended to exempt from the payment of the annual tax and registration fee only such licensees of your Board as are engaged in the services of this country enumerated as above.

The intent of the statute being clear, it is not for administrative bodies or for the courts to add thereto.

Estate of McDonald, 118 Cal. 277 at 280;

Frinier v. C. J. Kubach Co., 177 Cal. 722 at 727.

It is therefore my opinion that a licensee of your Board serving with a foreign power is not exempt from the payment of the annual tax and registration fee required by Business and Professions Code section 2450.

Very truly yours,

EARL WARREN, *Attorney General*.

(Signed) Thomas Coakley, *Deputy*.

Concerning Registration of Licentiate's Certificate.

(COPY)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF

PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

San Francisco, Calif., December 12, 1941.

Yours of Dec. 11th, Re: *Registration of Licenses*.

To the Editor:—In reply to the query propounded by L. A. Hedges, M. D., Secretary of the Contra Costa County Medical Society, beg to advise that for many years past the law has required registration of the licentiate's certificate in whatever county he may practice.

On the back of each certificate issued in the printed matter is an instruction re this registration.

You will find that section of the law relating to registration i.e., Section 2340 of the P. & P. Code, appears on

page 399 of the 1941 directory published by the Board of Medical Examiners.

Conforming with your instruction, we are enclosing a copy of this letter for Dr. L. A. Hedges.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) C. B. PINKHAM, M. D.,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Concerning Civilian Defense Literature on Care of Burns, etc.

(COPY)

OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 18, 1941.

To the Editor:—In reply to your inquiry regarding literature on the care of burns, head injuries, etc., please be advised that the Office of Civilian Defense has co-operated with the American Red Cross and is using their text book for first aid instruction.

As far as the medical profession is concerned it is felt that they will employ the standard procedures as outlined in all acceptable medical texts.

It is contemplated that there will be a booklet issued covering such special subjects as the care of gas wounds and decontamination procedures. This is not available yet but I shall be pleased to advise you as soon as we receive such information. I understand there are some British medical publications covering the subjects but they are difficult to obtain.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) WALLACE D. HUNT, M. D.,
Regional Medical Officer.

Concerning April 6-10 Meeting of the American Congress on Obstetrics and Gynecology.

To the Editor:—In this time of stress, there should be a definite interest in the welfare of the mothers and babies of the nation. The Committee which is sponsoring the next American Congress on Obstetrics and Gynecology, to be held in St. Louis on April 6-10, 1942, represents the only organization outside of governmental bodies which has attempted to unite the efforts of voluntary and other agencies to carry out the widely disseminated plans for the care of women and children. Opportunity for the presentation of advances in obstetric and gynecologic knowledge will be afforded to the many groups interested in these problems at a nation-wide gathering of this kind. The Directors of the project believe that, notwithstanding the war situation, the Congress should be held at the stated time and are proceeding with their plans to make of this an outstanding gathering. Further details of the program will be communicated as these are made available. Inquiries may be addressed to the Central Office, 650 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Concerning a Bad Check Passer.

Berkeley, Calif., December 29, 1941.

To the Editor:—There is a bad check passer going among the doctors in California and I thought it would be advisable for you to report this in C. and W. M. His approach is a pain around the heart. Knowing he has a mitral murmur the unsuspecting physician is apt to fall into the trap, making a physical examination and prescribing some form of treatment. The trick is after the services have been rendered, without asking the amount of the doctor's fee, he drops a check on your desk made out to him supposedly by his employer, the amount of which is usually \$5.00 to \$8.00 more than the office fee. He endorses this check and the unsuspecting doctor gives him the balance in change. The man gives his name as John Larabee, the address as 2021 Hearst Street, Berkeley, California. There is no such address.

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